

Application No. 10/663,677
Reply to Office Action of December 23, 2004

IN THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Fig. 2. This sheet, which includes Fig. 2, replaces the original sheet including Fig. 2.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-30 are currently pending. Referring to the Office Action dated December 23, 2004, Applicant notes with appreciation allowance of claims 1-7 and 13-21, and the indication that 8-12 and 22-30 contain allowable subject matter. The foregoing amendment amends claims 8, 9, 11, 12, and 22. Applicant respectfully submits that support for these changes is self-evident from the originally-filed disclosure, including the original claims. Thus, no new subject matter is introduced by these claim amendments.

The Office Action objected to the Abstract and to the drawings. Further, in numbered paragraph 8, the Office Action indicated various formal issues regarding the written descriptive portion of the specification. In numbered paragraph 5, claims 8-12 and 22-30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

In response to the objection to the Abstract, the foregoing amendment amends the Abstract to be less than 150 words. As such, Applicant respectfully submits that this concern is sufficiently addressed and that the revised Abstract is proper under M.P.E.P. § 608.01 (b).

Regarding the objection to the drawings, Figure 2 is amended by the foregoing amendment to include labels 22b-22e. This change does not introduce new subject matter and is supported in the specification at least at paragraph 0030. Further, the Office Action asserts that element 30a is not shown in the drawings. However, Applicant respectfully notes that Figure 3B includes a label 30a for the recess in the second disk 17. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that the objection to the drawings is sufficiently addressed.

Regarding the formalities pointed out in numbered paragraph 8, the foregoing amendment sets forth changes in each of the indicated specification paragraphs as suggested

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in the Office Action. Applicant respectfully submits that these revisions only address matters of form and do not introduce any new subject matter to the specification.

Claims 8, 9, 11, 12, and 22 are amended by the foregoing amendment in response to the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. It is respectfully submitted that these changes sufficiently address the concerns listed in numbered paragraph 5 of the Office Action. Applicant respectfully submits that claims 8-12 and 22-30 now particularly point out and distinctly claim subject matter which Applicant regards as being aspects of the present invention. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 8-12 and 22-30 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

Consequently, in light of the above discussion and in view of the present amendment, the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and an early and favorable action to that affect is respectfully requested. A Notice of Allowance for claims 1-30 is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner deem that any further action is necessary to place this application in even better form for allowance, he is encouraged to contact Applicant's undersigned representative at the below listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

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